

# HAMPTON

CITY PAGE

AUGUST 15

YOUR TAX DOLLARS AT WORK

AUGUST 15

CITY PAGE

## Citizens working with government

“Who are we?” “We are Hampton!” “Do we have challenges?” “Sure we do.” “How do we succeed?” **“We Work Together!”**

That was a message that a delegation of citizens, elected officials, and city staff recently brought to the All-America City competition — our nation’s oldest and most prestigious award for civic excellence. Hampton was one of 10 communities recognized as being an All-America City.

More importantly, the award signifies that Hampton is a community where city government and the citizens work together to solve problems.

“Like all communities, we are not perfect,” says Mayor Mamie E. Locke. “But our citizens continually step forward to work with government to address community challenges. And the results have been outstanding!”

Answers to common questions about this important award:

### Why is Hampton an All-America City?

The city takes great pride in the fact that, as we address civic challenges, there is so much interaction between our city government and our citizens. Often, we simply take this for granted because it is an ingrained part of our culture. But the reality is that, yes, we are special, we do work well together, we do achieve results, and we have many things to celebrate.

### Can you give examples?

Three specific programs were highlighted at the All-America City conference, but there are many more as well. The three that were highlighted include:

- Y. H. Thomas Community Center - At citizens’ request, the city renovated a closed junior high school and turned it into a community center. The center is staffed by community volunteers who donate thousands of hours of their time.
- Y-COPE (Youth-Community Oriented Policing Effort) - A successful partnership between youth, Alternatives, Inc. (a non-profit youth development agency), neighborhood organizations and Hampton Police Division. Y-COPE brings young people and police officers into casual, non-confrontational contact through work, play and community projects. The program brought about a 50 percent drop in violent crime rates in one of the neighborhoods where it is offered.
- Healthy Families Partnership - This community partnership offers parenting classes, family support services and the libraries’ Young Family Centers “to ensure that every child in Hampton is born healthy and enters school ready to learn.” About 25 local restaurants offer a free dinner at classes that range from ways to be a dynamic dad to skills for parents of teen-agers.

### How else do our community and city government partner to solve challenges?



Thousands of citizens partner with government in a variety of ways. They do this by serving on commissions, helping with neighborhood community projects, and more. For a list of some examples, visit the city’s Web site at [www.hampton.gov](http://www.hampton.gov).

At left, Will Moffett, executive director of Y.H. Thomas Community Center, is shown outside the White House where he was one of the representatives accepting the All-America City award last month.

### How can I become a part of this exciting process?

If you’d like to become a part of our citizen involvement team, call the Neighborhood Office at 727-6460 and they will provide you with a list of opportunities. Visit the city’s Web site at [www.hampton.gov](http://www.hampton.gov) for more information.

Now available are “Hampton, All-America City” bumper stickers and window decals for citizens and businesses to display proudly. Pick one up at public libraries or at City Hall.



Two of Y.H. Thomas's youngest members were in D.C. as part of the center's delegation in support of the award presentation.

## Labor Day Holiday

City offices will be closed on Monday, September 2 in observance of the Labor Day holiday. Hampton’s Customer Call Center will remain open to answer your questions — just dial 311 or 727-8311.

Curbside collection normally scheduled for September 2 will be collected on Wednesday, September 4.

**Reminder:** Hampton City Schools on the regular calendar will be back in session on September 3. Watch for school buses loading and unloading children.



## White House presentation



Vice Mayor Paige Washington, left, poses with Housing and Urban Development Secretary Mel Martinez after receiving the All-America City plaque in a White House ceremony on July 31. Accepting the award with Washington were Will Moffett, Y.H. Thomas Community Center, and Robert Carsey, Hampton Holiday Inn.

See related article on left.

## Hampton Waste Watchers' Tour de Landfill

The Hampton Waste Watchers and Waste Management of Hampton Roads invite you to tour the Bethel Landfill on a special Tour de Landfill on Friday, August 23, from 11:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. Registration is limited to 10, so sign up right away!

Tour de Landfill will take you to the top of Bethel Landfill (weather permitting). You'll find out all about the inner workings of the landfill — how it is constructed, the kinds of trash permitted, and the kinds of machines used in the landfilling process, all from the comfort of a city van.

To take advantage of this great educational opportunity, all you have to do is register, bring your lunch, and sit back and relax!

To register for Tour de Landfill, call the Hampton Clean City Commission, 727-6394, or e-mail [hccc@hampton.gov](mailto:hccc@hampton.gov). The Hampton Waste Watchers Committee is a coalition of volunteers from public and private agencies that work together to educate residents about Hampton’s solid waste management system.



## Tune In!

Watch  
50th Anniversary of  
Hampton’s Consolidation

Weekdays, 8:30 p.m.  
Weekends noon and 5 p.m.

This show highlights various events held during the city’s consolidation celebration in July.

Check [www.hampton.gov](http://www.hampton.gov) or call 311 for more programs to watch.

## Calendar

AUGUST 16 - 18

### Hampton Cup Regatta



The 76th annual hydroplane boat race is set in a festive

atmosphere with food and beverage vendors, music and radio station give-aways. Celebration includes a children’s area with an emphasis on life safety education, bay education, and environmental exhibits. East Mercury Bridge at Fort Monroe, 12-6 p.m., free, 723-3191.

AUGUST 18, 25

### Big Bands at Buckroe

Enjoy the sounds of the Big Band era and dance under the stars! Free Admission. Refreshments available for purchase. Buckroe Beach, 6 - 8 p.m. Hampton Parks & Recreation, 727-1978.

AUGUST 20, 27

### Pomoco Family Movie Series

Join moviegoers and spread your blankets at Buckroe Beach for Movie Night. Each Tuesday night entertainment starts at 7 p.m., movies start at sunset. Buckroe Beach. Refreshments available for purchase.

Free admission; parking fees. Hampton Parks & Recreation, 727-8311.

AUGUST 25-26

Child Fair brings together organizations from across the Peninsula to assist parents and caregivers with their children. The event will offer child wellness screenings; information booths; clowns, and roaming characters; reading area with guest readers; trucks, cars, and other vehicles from local organizations for children to see and to enjoy up close. Free activities and free parking. Hampton Coliseum, noon to 6 p.m., 727-1300, [www.childfair.org](http://www.childfair.org). Workshops will be held on August 26 at Hampton Holiday Inn.



AUGUST 27

### Wetlands Board

Regular meeting, 5 p.m., Council Chambers, City Hall, 727-6140.

AUGUST 28

### Crossroads Convention Center Public Meeting

Interested in learning more about the Crossroads Project? An economic impact report and feasibility study will be presented to the public. These are the same reports that City Council will consider as part of its decision regarding the issuance of bonds for the Crossroads Project this fall. Council Chambers, 7:30 p.m. Meeting also will be televised and rebroadcast on The City Channel TV-47.

SEPTEMBER 6-8

### Hampton Bay Days

Hampton’s largest festival celebrates its 20th year paying tribute to the Chesapeake Bay.



It features headline musical entertainers, bay activities, seafood, fireworks, educational exhibits, children’s activities, a juried art show, sporting and water events

and more! Check out [www.baydays.org](http://www.baydays.org) for the latest on event schedules.

THROUGH SEPTEMBER 8

### Bay Days Juried Art Show

One of the East Coast’s most prestigious art shows, this year’s show will be a milestone, showcasing work by artists from throughout the East Coast. Charles H. Taylor Arts Center, 4205 Victoria Boulevard, 722-ARTS.

For more events, go to [www.hampton.gov](http://www.hampton.gov) and click “calendar.”

## Water conservation tips

Did you know you can conserve 4 gallons of water a minute by turning it off while you brush your teeth? That’s 200 gallons a week for a family of four!

Newport News Waterworks officials are asking all customers to observe voluntary water restrictions due to the extended drought conditions we have been experiencing here on the Peninsula. This is the first time in 8 years that the facility has found it necessary to make this request, and it is being done only after careful deliberation. A similar request in 1994 resulted in a 10% reduction in water use that eased the strain on our water supply. Such a reduction is even more important in 2002 since weather conditions have been more severe and prolonged, and there are indications we could be in a serious drought.

Please make every effort to conserve water in your home and workplace. The following are some ways in which we can all help.



- Minimize use of water to wash down sidewalks and driveways (sweep with a broom instead) and other hard-surfaced areas, buildings or structures.
- Minimize use of water to wash vehicles except in facilities operating with an approved water recycling system (such facilities must display a sign stating that such a system is in place).
- Minimize watering of lawns and gardens except when using recycled water (use the water you drained from your fish tank!) or except from a watering container not exceeding 3 gallons in capacity. Limit watering to the hours between 8 p.m. and 10 a.m., and use a kitchen timer to remind yourself to turn faucets off.
- Check toilets for leaks. Put a few drops of food coloring in the tank. If it seeps into the bowl, you have a leak. Consider installing low-volume toilets.

For more tips, visit the Waterworks Web site at [www.newport-news.va.us](http://www.newport-news.va.us).